

The Beacon

Academic Year 2018/19

Issue No: 16

Date 18th Jan 2019

Hello from Mr West

The time before Easter gives opportunity to settle, focus, push forward and apply what we know. As a school we are constantly reflecting on our practise: reading, researching, trialling and adapting to first and foremost ensure that your children receive quality first teaching and learning.

The relationship between home and school is a crucial one, built on trust and respect, with an appreciation of what it takes to raise and educate children. I have no doubt you, our parent group, will continue to work with us, so your child can grow in confidence, with a love of learning, and a determination to be the best person they can be.

A huge focus for us is centered around respect and having understanding for your neighbour. Can I also ask, and I am certain you already do, that you reinforce this message emphasising to your children that treating everyone with respect, being on time and in school every day, wearing the correct uniform, working hard in school and doing so with a smile is important to you. These are also important life skills. The value you place on these will be the value your child holds. It was pleasing to see so many children returning to school, looking so smart in their school uniform, in the correct colours, wearing a tie in key stage two and in suitable footwear - remember trainers (even if they are black) are not part of our uniform.

I am very much looking forward to the new term. I have high hopes for the children at Montpelier and I have no doubt that you will be hearing all about the fantastic learning opportunities they will be experiencing over the coming weeks.

Meerkats – Family Separation Support.

Jane Gilbert (Parent Support Advisor) and Julie Spencer (Learning Mentor, Plymouth Excellence Cluster)) will be running a support group for children who have experienced separation within their family.

The aim of the group is to give the children an opportunity to talk about their feelings, understand their emotions and develop coping strategies.

The program will run for 6 weeks during this term and each session will have a play-based activity, allowing children to have fun in a relaxed safe environment.

If you feel your child may benefit from this group, or you would like further information please speak to Jane Gilbert, by Friday 25th January.

School Term Dates for 2018/2019

Tues 12th Feb - Parents' evening (please note Foundation stage dates tbc)

Wed 13th Feb - Parents' evening (please note Foundation stage dates tbc)

Mon 18th Feb to Fri 22nd Feb – Spring Half Term Break 2019.

Thurs 28th Feb – PTFA Quiz Night

1st April to 5th April - The Big Pedal

Fri 5th April – Last Day of Spring Term 2019.

Mon 8th to Mon 22nd April – Easter Holiday 2019.

Tues 23rd April – Non-Pupil Day.

Wed 24th April – Summer Term 2019 begins.

Mon 6th May – Bank Holiday.

Mon 27th to Fri 31st May – Summer Half Term Break 2019.

Wed 24th July – 2:30pm end of term finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)

Thurs 25th July 2019 – Non-Pupil Day.

TTRockstars Battle of The Bands

Calling all KS2 pupils. Help your class win the TTRockstars Battle of The Bands. The competition begins at 9am on Monday 21st January and ends 9am Monday 28th January. Use TTRockstars online or on the APP. The more you play the more points your class gains.



Forthcoming changes to school money. Spring term 19

Later this month, Jan 19 there will be a new option in the top right of the screen to change your password yourself. For added security, when you change your password, you will receive an SMS or Email notification to let you know this has happened. It will not divulge the password in the message, it will simply prompt you to login using the new password and act as a security prompt just in case this was unexpected.

Another feature that will be changing soon is that you will be taken directly to the parent login page from www.eduspot.co.uk, in an effort to make things simpler.

Further down the line school money will be adding self-service password resetting tools for parents who have forgotten their password and unable to log in.

For further information please go to the webpage: www.eduspot.co.uk/schoolmoney-changes/

Eduspot (as providers of SchoolMoney)

Dear Parents,

With online payments on the rise, Eduspot (as providers of SchoolMoney) would like to remind you to be extra vigilant when making payments.

Recently, there have been a small number of reports of attempts to defraud parents whilst using SchoolMoney. We thoroughly investigate all reports of attempts to defraud parents using our system (including separate, independent checks) and can confirm that we found we found that no fraud, data breach or malicious attack has occurred.

We believe however, that it important to remind parents to be extra vigilant when making payments online. NEVER give out your ATM pin to anyone – no system or person should ever require this to complete an online transaction. If something looks suspicious, do not complete the payment, close down your browser and start again making sure you are using a genuine website.

You should also ensure all system and app updates are applied to your PC or mobile devices and that they have reliable, up-to-date anti-virus software installed. Increasingly, mobile devices are the targets of malicious software so it's important that these also have adequate protection.

Eduspot remains committed to protecting your online security and providing you with an easy to use solution to securely make payments to your schools. If you spot something that doesn't look right relating to SchoolMoney, please contact us at support@schoolmoney.co.uk.

Netball Hi Five

On Tuesday 2 teams competed in the annual Netball Hi Five event held at Marjons. Both team had 5 matches to play, first up was the A Team, once the nerves settled, the team started to play decent netball, unfortunately a little to late, loosing the first match 1-0. After a few stern words the next matches were like watching a different team, winning 2-0, 3-1 and 6-1. This wasn't enough to reach the next round finishing in 2nd place in our group. In the other group the B Team finished in 4th position, fantastic team work and determination from every player, congratulations teams you were amazing.



Year 2

Wow, what a wild couple of weeks it has been in Year 2! You may have heard about the unusual dinosaur egg that was spotted out in the forest area last week. Since then, the children learnt about mass when bravely weighing disgusting dinosaur dung and were challenged to create their very own dino eggs when learning about line and shape! We look forward to taking on the ultimate author challenge next week - ask your child to find out more!



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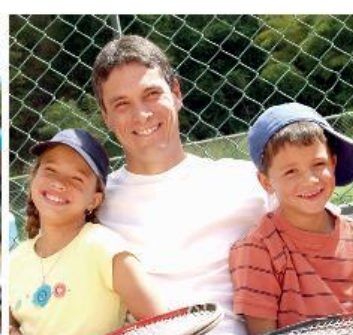
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*NOTE: DATES VARY PER AREA

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